United Nations S/2018/1178

Security Council

Distr.: General
28 December 2018
English
Original: French

Letter dated 28 December 2018 from the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) addressed to the President of the Security Council

On behalf of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) and in accordance with paragraph 9 of Council resolution 1977 (2011), I have the honour to transmit herewith the review of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) for 2018 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex were brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council.

(*Signed*) Sacha Sergio **Llorentty Soliz**
Chair of the Security Council Committee
established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

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Annex

Review of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) for 2018

[Original: English]

I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 1540 (2004), the Security Council expressed its intention to monitor closely the implementation of the resolution and, at the appropriate level, to take further decisions that might be required. On 20 April 2011, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 1977 (2011). Under paragraph 9 of resolution 1977 (2011), the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) is mandated to prepare a review of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) before the end of December each year, addressing in particular all aspects of paragraphs 1 to 3 of the resolution, including developing and maintaining efforts to implement the resolution in accordance with national legal authorities and legislation, and consistent with international law. In its resolution 2325 (2016), adopted on 15 December 2016, the Council welcomed the continuous submission of the annual review of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), prepared with the assistance of the Committee's Group of Experts, in December each year.

2. The present review focuses on the implementation of the Committee's seventeenth programme of work for the period from 1 February 2018 to 31 January 2019 (S/2018/340, annex).[1]

3. The work of the Committee and its Group of Experts during the reporting period was carried out against the background of the preparations for the upcoming comprehensive review of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), which is due to take place before the end of the mandate of the Committee on 25 April 2021. In addition, six new members of the Group of Experts took up their posts during the reporting period.

II. Progress and achievements

4. In 2018, the Committee, chaired by Sacha Sergio Llorentty Soliz (Plurinational State of Bolivia), continued to facilitate and monitor the implementation by States of resolution 1540 (2004). The Committee held four formal and two informal sessions in 2018.

5. The Committee's work was facilitated by the working group on monitoring and national implementation, coordinated by Enri Prieto (Peru), which held three informal sessions; the working group on assistance, coordinated by Alexia Jarrot (France), which held three informal sessions; the working group on cooperation with international organizations, coordinated by Antonin Benjamin Bieke (Côte d'Ivoire), which held one informal session; and the working group on transparency and media outreach, coordinated by Craig Finkelstein and Stephen Knight (United States of America), which held one informal session.

[1] The 2018 review contains data and information received as at 22 December 2018. Data and information received after that date will be reflected in the 2019 review.

A. Monitoring and national implementation

6. The Security Council, in paragraph 12 of its resolution 2325 (2016), decided that the Committee should continue to intensify its efforts to promote the full implementation by all States of resolution 1540 (2004) through its programme of work. The Committee and its Group of Experts continued the compilation and general examination of information on the status of States' implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), in addition to their efforts at outreach, dialogue, assistance and cooperation. In its relevant interaction with Member States, and in accordance with resolution 2325 (2016), the Committee gave due attention to enforcement measures; measures relating to biological, chemical and nuclear weapons; proliferation finance measures; accounting for and securing related materials; and national export and trans-shipment controls.

7. In accordance with its seventeenth programme of work, the Committee provided a briefing to the Security Council on its activities on 3 October 2018 in a joint session with the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities and the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001).

8. Following the completed revision of matrices in 2016 and the revision of the matrix format in 2017, the existing matrices of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) were converted to the new format in 2018 to allow for the updating and systematic review of all matrix information. In that regard, the working group discussed and approved a method for the systematic review of the matrices before the next comprehensive review of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), which is due to be completed before 25 April 2021.

9. In its resolution 2325 (2016), the Security Council called upon all States that had not yet done so to submit an initial report to the Committee without delay. In the context of achieving universal reporting as outlined in the seventeenth programme of work, the Committee continued its efforts to encourage the submission of such reports, including through direct interaction and bilateral meetings. In that regard, in May 2018 the Chair wrote to the remaining 12 States that had not yet submitted reports to encourage them to send to the Committee their initial report in line with resolutions 1540 (2004) and 2325 (2016). Furthermore, the Committee's Group of Experts conducted a visit to Mali, at its request, to assist it in drafting its initial national report. The Group of Experts also held bilateral discussions with some non-reporting States, including in the margins of events relating to resolution 1540 (2004). Comoros, Guinea-Bissau and Timor-Leste submitted their initial reports to the Committee in 2018. A total of 182 of the 193 Member States have now provided their reports.

10. In the same resolution, the Security Council encouraged States to provide additional information on their implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), including, on a voluntary basis, on their laws and regulations and effective practices in implementing the resolution. In that regard, in August 2018, the Chair sent letters to all reporting States encouraging them to provide up-to-date information, which would provide more accurate data with which the Committee would be able to more effectively discharge its responsibilities, including in preparation for the next comprehensive review of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). During the reporting period, eight States, Argentina, Australia, Burundi, Cambodia, Greece, Hungary, Indonesia and Malaysia, provided such additional information, including on measures related to prohibiting non-State actors from using nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and their means of delivery, as well as on measures to establish

national controls to prevent the proliferation and illicit trafficking of such weapons and related materials.

11. In its resolution 2325 (2016), the Security Council also encouraged States to prepare, on a voluntary basis, national implementation action plans mapping out their priorities and plans for implementing the key provisions of resolution 1540 (2004). In 2018, three such plans were submitted. Serbia submitted its second voluntary national implementation action plan, and Turkmenistan and Uruguay submitted their initial plans, bringing to 32 the total number of States having submitted national action plans to the Committee since 2007. Canada, Kyrgyzstan, Serbia and Uzbekistan have submitted their second national implementation action plans. The plan of Turkmenistan was developed with the assistance of the Committee's Group of Experts, which was also involved in efforts to develop new plans through direct interaction with Guyana and Suriname in 2018. The plans of Guyana and Suriname were still in the drafting stage at the time of reporting.

12. The Security Council, in its resolution 2325 (2016), recognized that it was important that the Committee continue to actively engage in dialogue with States on their implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), including through visits to States at their invitation. In 2018, in addition to the visit to Mali, the Committee undertook visits to Bahrain, Equatorial Guinea, Guyana, Peru, Suriname and Zambia to assist with the drafting of national implementation action plans, to exchange updated information on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), to identify achievements, gaps and assistance needs and, where appropriate, to map out future actions for the implementation of the resolution. During the visits, relevant national officials, including senior-level government representatives, met with the Committee's experts.

13. States are encouraged to inform the Committee of their points of contact for resolution 1540 (2004), both in their capitals and in their permanent missions to the United Nations in New York. Points of contact can facilitate internal coordination of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) as well as collaboration between States and contact with the Committee. In 2018, Bahrain, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kuwait and Timor-Leste named their points of contact. To date, a total of 106 Member States have informed the Committee of their points of contact for resolution 1540 (2004).

14. In its seventeenth programme of work, the Committee encouraged expansion of the network of points of contact for resolution 1540 (2004) and the continuation of training courses conducted at the regional level for points of contact. In that regard, training courses were held with the participation of instructors from the Committee's Group of Experts, from 14 to 17 August in Addis Ababa, for participants from French-speaking African countries, supported by the African Union, and from 4 to 7 September in Rostov-on-Don, Russian Federation, for a second time, supported by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat. In 2018, an agreement was reached with the African Union concerning the holding of another training course for points of contact in African States in March 2019.

15. In its seventeenth programme of work, the Committee recognized the need to promote the sharing of experience through peer reviews and other means, table-top exercises to evaluate and reinforce effective practices, and lessons learned. On 7 June, delegations from Chile and Colombia participated in an informal meeting and provided a briefing to the Committee about the peer review meetings held in each country in 2017 in relation to the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). It was the third peer review meeting to take place globally and the first in the western hemisphere. Representatives of other States of Latin America and Caribbean and the Organization of American States (OAS) attended the briefing. From 28 to 30 June

2018, in Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan, the Group of Experts participated in a peer review meeting between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, and supported by Belarus, in an extended format that included three other States of Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan), organized with the support of OSCE. Among other topics, effective practices in the implementation of obligations under resolution 1540 (2004), specifically in the area of export and border controls, were also discussed at two Wiesbaden process conferences: one international conference, held in New Delhi, and one conference for States of Asia and the Pacific, held in Seoul. The objective of the Wiesbaden series of meetings is to promote active dialogue between States and industry on the effective implementation of export controls. The Committee, with the support of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, organized a regional seminar in Santo Domingo on effective practices to enhance strategic trade and border controls among States of Latin America and the Caribbean.

16. In resolution 1810 (2008), the Security Council encouraged the Committee to actively engage with States and relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to promote the sharing of experience and lessons learned in the areas covered by resolution 1540 (2004). On 16 May, a delegation from the Export Control Authority of Germany participated in an informal meeting and provided a briefing to the Committee on the outcomes of the previous global Wiesbaden conference. The delegation also shared national experience in implementing export controls, in particular controls over intangible technology transfers, given that in resolution 2325 (2016) States were encouraged to control access to such technology, as appropriate.

17. On 7 and 8 November, the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia hosted a regional conference on the theme "Seizing the opportunities, reducing the risk" for States of Latin America and the Caribbean. The conference provided an opportunity for participants to exchange views and effective practices for preventing the proliferation of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons, focusing on the handling of related materials, with a view to strengthening the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) in the region.

B. Assistance

18. States submitted nine new requests for assistance to the Committee in 2018, a marked increase from the 3 requests received in 2017, from Bahrain, Burundi, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Iraq, Madagascar, Mali and Peru. The requests from Bahrain, Equatorial Guinea, Guinea, Mali, Madagascar and Peru consisted of invitations to the Committee and its Group of Experts to visit those States to discuss implementation measures.

19. The Committee received letters from States and international organizations indicating their readiness to consider current requests for assistance, informing the Committee about current activities or possible areas in which assistance could be offered. Responses to requests for assistance were made to the following States:

(a) Iraq, from the World Customs Organization (WCO), the World Health Organization (WHO), the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) and the Nuclear Suppliers Group;

(b) Tajikistan, in response to a previous request for assistance, from WCO and the Nuclear Suppliers Group;

(c) Togo, in response to a previous request, from the Office for Disarmament Affairs, with the support of WCO;

(d) Zambia, in response to a previous request, from the Office for Disarmament Affairs with the support of WCO.

Responses were relayed by the Committee to the States concerned for their action in taking up the offers directly with the providers.

20. In response to the requests of Bahrain, Equatorial Guinea, Mali and Peru, the Group of Experts visited those States to assist their Governments by discussing implementation measures or in the drafting of a voluntary national implementation action plan.

21. In continuing to carry out its clearing-house function in a transparent manner, the Committee continued to post on its website summaries of requests for assistance from Member States, as well as offers of assistance from Member States and a number of international, regional and subregional organizations or other entities.

22. The Committee and its Group of Experts continued to maintain a consolidated list of requests for assistance, indicating where offers and requests for assistance have been matched, to be used as required in response to requests for information and, as appropriate, at outreach events.

23. In 2018, the Group of Experts continued to provide quarterly updates on ongoing matching activities and provided short summaries of new requests for assistance and offers of assistance to the members of the working group on assistance.

24. In 2018 and in accordance with its seventeenth programme of work, the Committee, including its working group on assistance, continued to work on its procedures to match assistance needs and on reviewing requests, offers and related assistance programmes. The Committee and its Group of Experts continued to engage in dialogue with States requesting assistance and potential assistance providers, where appropriate, with the objective of effectively matching existing offers of assistance with requests for assistance, and continued to help States, where appropriate, to formulate detailed and effective requests for assistance, including in relation to how the requests fit into their national implementation action plans, as appropriate.

25. The Group of Experts continued its consultations with officials from States during various outreach events, including during visits to States and national round tables on the implementation of obligations under resolution 1540 (2004), and regularly provided information about and illustrated methods of assistance that could help States strengthen their legislative and regulatory frameworks related to resolution 1540 (2004). They also explained the clearing-house role of the Committee, which is designed to facilitate the flow of information between States requesting assistance and providers of assistance, and promoted, where appropriate, the use by States of the Committee's template when drafting requests for assistance.

26. In accordance with the seventeenth programme of work of the Committee, it revised its internal procedures for processing requests for assistance and offers of assistance, in 2018, with a view to enabling the Committee to further enhance communication between requesting States and assistance providers in its matching process. The Committee also agreed to ask for updated information from both its registered assistance providers and States that have requested assistance.

27. The United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean continued to support States in Latin America and the Caribbean in strengthening the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). In that regard, meetings were organized for Guyana and Suriname, in their respective capitals, with the participation of an expert from the Group of Experts to develop their voluntary national implementation action plans.

28. The Group of Experts and the OSCE provided support to Turkmenistan in strengthening the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), and a national round table was organized, with the participation of Committee experts, to support Turkmenistan in drafting a voluntary national implementation action plan.

C. Cooperation with international, regional and subregional organizations

29. The Committee and its Group of Experts continued to develop its collaboration with relevant international and regional organizations, including directly related United Nations entities, in 2018, with the objective of promoting among such organizations, including the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), OIE, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and WHO, the highlighting of the obligations set out in resolution 1540 (2004) in their model legislation and/or guidelines pertaining to instruments under their respective mandates, where appropriate, pursuant to paragraph 25 of resolution 2325 (2016).

30. The Committee and its Group of Experts invited relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to participate in the two training courses held in 2018 for points of contact for resolution 1540 (2004) to act as instructors and to enable participating States to understand synergies between the obligations set out in resolution 1540 (2004) and other international, regional or subregional obligations.

31. In its resolutions 1810 (2008) and 1977 (2011), the Security Council encouraged the Committee to actively engage with relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to promote the sharing of experience and lessons learned in the areas covered by resolution 1540 (2004). Under resolution 2325 (2016), the Committee's engagements with such organizations are envisaged as a recurring dialogue, with a view to enhancing cooperation and information-sharing. In that regard, on 27 November, the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), IAEA, OAS, the European Union and INTERPOL participated in an informal session with the purposes of sharing information and experience with the Committee, in order to support efforts to facilitate the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).

32. The Committee and its Group of Experts continued to work with international non-proliferation mechanisms as follows:

(a) To intensify collaboration with OPCW by participating in events organized by or in cooperation with OPCW, which included outreach and regional workshops, such as the subregional stakeholders forum for States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction on advancing the implementation of the Convention and regional cooperation in South-East Asia, organized by OPCW in Bangkok in April, the OPCW regional meeting of national authorities in Africa, held in Morocco in June, and the workshop on the role of implementing legislation on the Chemical Weapons Convention in addressing threats from non-State actors, organized by the Government of Nigeria and the OPCW in Abuja in October. An expert also participated in the OPCW conference on countering chemical terrorism held in The Hague in June. The meetings provided opportunities for experts to hold discussions with representatives of international, regional or subregional organizations regarding resolution 1540 (2004) and the assistance requirements of Member States;

(b) To enhance cooperation with the Implementation Support Unit, which provides support to States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin

Weapons and on Their Destruction, experts participated in a regional workshop for science and technology for the Middle East and North Africa, organized in Amman in July, in meetings of experts on the Convention held in Geneva in August, a regional workshop for States parties of Central Asia held in Almaty in October and in a workshop for States parties of Asia on the implications of the rapid developments in science and technology held in Manila in November. An expert also participated in the fourth African Conference on Emerging Infectious Disease and Biosecurity organized by the Global Emerging Pathogens Treatment Consortium in Sierra Leone in September;

(c) In collaboration with OIE, through exchanges with representatives in the margins of relevant meetings;

(d) In collaboration with IAEA, through interaction and the exchange of information with representatives in the margins of relevant meetings and events, including the IAEA international conference on the security of radioactive material on the theme: "The way forward for prevention and detection", held in Vienna from 3 to 7 December, in which the Chair and an expert participated.

33. Other international, regional and subregional organizations also continued to play an active and important role in the promotion of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) among their members, and the Committee and its Group of Experts worked closely with those organizations as follows:

(a) Experts attended an African Union-organized training course in Addis Ababa in August for points of contact for resolution 1540 (2004) for francophone African countries and an African Union-organized meeting in Vienna in December for African States on the drafting of model laws for implementation of the resolution;

(b) An expert participated in an OSCE-organized meeting on the voluntary national implementation action plan of Turkmenistan, held in Ashgabat in January, and a regional workshop for States of Central Asia on legal and regulatory requirements for strategic trade controls, organized by OSCE in Vienna in April. Experts attended a peer review meeting involving Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, and supported by Belarus, in Issyk-Kul in June, and a round table on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) for States of Central Asia, also held in Issyk-Kul, in July, both organized by OSCE. OSCE supported a training course for points of contact for States members of OSCE, hosted by the Russian Federation in Rostov-on-Don in September;

(c) Experts participated in the sixth international meeting of the national focal points of the European Union Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence, held in Brussels in June, in the second European Union partner-to-partner dialogue on export control governance, held in Brussels in October, and in the Centres of Excellence regional round-table meeting for South-East Asia, held in Vientiane in December;

(d) An expert attended a regional conference on the prevention of terrorism and of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their financing, held in Panama City in February, and an export control workshop for members and associate members of the Southern Common Market, held in Montevideo in March, both organized by the OAS Inter-American Committee against Terrorism;

(e) An expert attended a planning seminar relating to strategic trade control enforcement with regard to weapons of mass destruction organized by WCO in Brussels in January. WCO also provided expert input to the training course for points of contact, organized by the African Union and the Group of Experts in Addis Ababa in August, and a workshop on strategic trade control enforcement under the

framework of resolution 1540 (2004), organized by the Government of Zambia and the Group of Experts in Lusaka in August;

(f) An expert attended a consultative meeting on guidance relating to the biosafety and biosecurity regulatory framework, organized by WHO in Geneva in September.

34. The Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) and its Group of Experts continued to work closely with relevant United Nations bodies dedicated to counter-terrorism, as follows:

(a) As a member of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force since 2005, the Group of Experts continued to contribute, within its mandate, to its work. Experts participated in the Task Force working group on national and regional counter-terrorism strategies and attended the third in its series of workshops on international response to chemical and biological terrorist attacks, on enhancing the interoperability of agencies and coordinated communication in the event of chemical or biological emergencies, held in The Hague in April. The Group of Experts also participated in the United Nations High-level Conference of Heads of Counter-Terrorism Agencies of Member States, held at Headquarters in June;

(b) The Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) and its Group of Experts continued to cooperate with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015), and their experts, within their respective mandates. The expert groups and panels of the three committees continued to share relevant information, discuss common issues and coordinate actions. In July, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate led joint country visits to Armenia and to Georgia, in which an expert of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) participated. An expert also participated, with the Monitoring Team of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015), in a meeting on the implementation of financial measures required by Security Council resolutions 1267 (1999), 1373 (2001) and 1540 (2004), organized by the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe in Harare in October. The joint visits enabled the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) and its Group of Experts to engage with appropriate officials in those countries on the full range of their obligations under resolution 1540 (2004);

(c) The Chair of the Committee provided a briefing to the Security Council on 3 October, together with the Chair of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the Chair of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015).

35. The Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) and its Group of Experts also continued to work closely with other relevant United Nations bodies as follows:

(a) Collaboration with UNODC, on the implementation of obligations set out in resolution 1540 (2004). Experts attended a global workshop on the universalization of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism and the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and the 2005 Amendment thereto, held in Vienna in March, a national legislative workshop on maritime counter-terrorism organized by UNODC and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and hosted by the Government of Bangladesh in Dhaka in July and a national legislative workshop on the implementation of international legal instruments on transport-related maritime counter-terrorism organized by UNODC and IMO and hosted by the Government of Sri Lanka in Colombo in August;

(b) Close cooperation with the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific. Supported by the Group of Experts, the Regional Centre in Latin America and the Caribbean organized workshops on voluntary national implementation action plans, held in Paramaribo and Georgetown in February, and a regional seminar on enhancing strategic trade and border controls in Latin America and the Caribbean, held in Santo Domingo in March, the latter of which an expert attended. Experts attended an implementation report writing workshop organized by the Government of Mali and the Regional Centre in Africa, held in Bamako in October.

36. The Committee and its Group of Experts also contributed to meetings organized by parliamentarians. The Chair sent a message to Parliamentarians for Global Action for its regional parliamentary workshop to promote the universality and implementation of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention and the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) in Africa, held in Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, in September, hosted by the national group of Parliamentarians for Global Action and supported by the Government of Canada. The Chair also sent a message to the 139th Assembly of the IPU, held in Geneva in October.

D. Transparency and outreach

37. Transparency and outreach activities make important contributions to fostering greater cooperation and raising awareness among States, parliamentarians, relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and civil society, including industry, regarding the obligations set out in resolution 1540 (2004) and their implementation.

38. Direct outreach to States, relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and, where appropriate, civil society is important, and it is one of the principal tools to reach both wider and targeted audiences.

39. In 2018, the Chair, Committee members and experts participated in 32 outreach events (see enclosure), including by sending recorded messages, where appropriate.

40. While States are responsible for implementing the obligations set out in resolution 1540 (2004), parliamentarians and industry play important roles: the former because, in accordance with national procedures, their action is necessary to implement legislation to meet the requirements of paragraphs 2 and 3; the latter because industry is at the leading edge of implementation of national controls on related materials.

41. In that regard, the Chair of the Committee addressed parliamentarians on two occasions in 2018 through recorded video messages. He made opening remarks at the Parliamentarians for Global Action regional parliamentary workshop in Africa and addressed the 139th Assembly of IPU. The Chair highlighted the importance of resolution 1540 (2004) in preventing non-State actors, including terrorists, from obtaining nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, along with their delivery systems and related materials for their development and manufacture. He emphasised that adopting appropriate and effective laws is particularly relevant to the mandates of parliamentarians.

42. With respect to industry, the Committee and its Group of Experts participated in two events in 2018 that directly engaged industry and provided opportunities to work with and provide information for industry regarding its obligations under national laws:

(a) In April, the Government of India supported by the Office for Disarmament Affairs, in cooperation with the Government of Germany, hosted a Wiesbaden process conference on the theme "Securing global supply chains through Government-industry partnerships towards effective implementation of resolution 1540 (2004)";

(b) In September in Seoul, the second industrial outreach conference on resolution 1540 (2004) for the Asia-Pacific region was hosted by the Government of the Republic of Korea, in coordination with the Committee and supported by the Office for Disarmament Affairs, with financial contributions from the European Union and Germany.

43. In 2018, the Committee continued to maintain its website as a tool to raise public awareness and serve as a key source of information and resources relating to resolution 1540 (2004) for use by Member States, Committee members, civil society and industry. With support from the Office for Disarmament Affairs, the site was updated regularly. Those updates included:

(a) A calendar of past outreach events and workshops, as well as confirmed upcoming events, including information notes on such activities;

(b) A list of frequently asked questions;

(c) Identification by Member States and international organizations of national points of contact;

(d) Information on requests for assistance and offers of assistance;

(e) National reports and voluntary national implementation action plans;

(f) Statements and presentations by the Chair and Committee members.

44. In 2018, the Committee continued to publish quarterly messages from the Chair, which are available from the website of the Committee, under the section entitled "Transparency and Outreach".

45. As at 20 December 2018, there were 68,006 visits to the website, an increase of one per cent compared with 2017.

46. In 2018, 5 press releases were issued on Committee events, the same number as in 2017.

E. Administrative issues

47. The Office for Disarmament Affairs and the Department of Political Affairs continued to provide, in coordination where appropriate, support to the Committee and its Group of Experts, in accordance with their responsibilities.

48. During the reporting period, many of the activities of the Committee were supported by voluntary contributions to the United Nations trust fund for global and regional disarmament activities. In 2018, funds were used from grants provided in earlier years by Germany, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, the United States of America and the European Union; new contributions were received from Kazakhstan.

49. In 2018, the Group of Experts integrated six new appointed experts: Edith Valles (Argentina), Hongliu Zhang (China), Kiwako Tanaka (Japan), Michiel Combrink (South Africa), Scott Spence (United States) and Jonathan Brewer (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland). On the recommendation of the Committee, the Secretary-General appointed Raphaël Prenat (France) as coordinator.

III. Final considerations

50. With regard to implementation, the number of States that have yet to submit their initial report has been reduced from 14 to 11. The Committee engaged with all non-reporting States on the issue, including with offers of assistance, some on more than one occasion. The Committee will continue its efforts in that regard in 2019 and continue to encourage States to submit additional information on their implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).

51. In 2018, the Committee's existing matrices were converted to the new format approved by the Committee in 2017. The revision of matrix data will be finalized before the next comprehensive review of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), the latter of which is to be completed by 25 April 2021.

52. The Committee should hold discussions on optimal approaches to enforcing appropriate effective laws for the prohibition of activities under paragraph 2 of resolution 1540 (2004).

53. The Committee should continue to consider and discuss other issues highlighted in resolution 2325 (2016), namely the challenge of controlling access to intangible transfers of technology and to information that could be used for proliferation and accounting for and securing sensitive materials, inviting expert speakers as appropriate.

54. The training course for points of contact for resolution 1540 (2004) continues to prove its worth as a useful tool in fostering regional networks of officials dedicated to facilitating the implementation of the resolution. The Committee should continue to support the organization of such training courses in 2019.

55. The Committee should continue to engage with States that decided to invite the Committee and its Group of Experts to assist them in developing voluntary national implementation action plans, including in cooperation with other international and regional organizations, such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the African Union, OAS, OSCE, the Regional Arms Control Verification and Implementation Assistance Centre and the OSCE Centre for Security Cooperation, and regional centres, such as the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific.

56. The Committee continued to recognize the need for a tailored dialogue with and among States on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) to ensure that the assistance given to requesting States corresponds to their national circumstances, priorities and needs. The Committee should continue its direct engagement with States, upon invitation to do so, and where appropriate, including through its Group of Experts, to discuss implementation measures. It should use its existing resources to facilitate prompt and effective responses to requests for assistance, where applicable.

57. The Committee should also consider holding an outreach event in New York, similar to the points of contact training courses, for points of contact in permanent missions to the United Nations located in New York, in order to provide briefings on resolution 1540 (2004), to publicize the Committee's work in facilitating the provision of assistance, including its matchmaking role, to explain how requests for assistance could be formulated and to present the results of assistance provided and information regarding future assistance opportunities.

58. With regard to international cooperation, the Committee and its Group of Experts will continue to develop their collaboration with international organizations, in particular during relevant meetings, workshops or other international events, during visits of representatives to New York and through direct interactions at the headquarters of the most relevant international organizations. To promote a more active role among regional and subregional organizations in supporting the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004), the Committee and its Group of Experts will further develop outreach to those organizations and continue to improve the coordination of the planning of specific activities. Similarly, the Committee must enhance its cooperation with the regional centres of the Office for Disarmament Affairs to facilitate the engagement of States in regional contexts.

59. The Committee and its Group of Experts will seek opportunities to hold meetings with relevant specialized international organizations to improve cooperation in assistance and the exchange of information on technical issues. With regard to regional and subregional organizations, the Committee and its Group of Experts will continue to develop existing and future activities related to the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) and on related assistance, taking into account regional contexts.

60. The Committee and its Group of Experts will continue to invite relevant international organizations to dedicated events relating to its activities, such as training sessions for points of contact. The Committee and its Group of Experts will also organize joint country visits with other international organizations at the invitation of States, where possible and appropriate.

61. With regard to cooperation with international, regional and subregional organizations, the Committee and its Group of Experts will continue to seek opportunities to coordinate and collaborate with the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015), and their experts, within their respective mandates.

62. Electronic outreach through the Committee's website, which has proved valuable in previous years, will continue to be an important element of the Committee's awareness-raising activities. As resources permit, further development, including the enhancement of technology to support the management and use of the Committee's data, will be needed.

63. The Committee should consider additional strategies to increase traffic on its website.

64. The Committee should continue to increase efforts to raise awareness among parliamentarians and other high-level decision makers.

65. The Committee should continue to support dialogue between States and industry, where appropriate, on the effective implementation of export controls.

Enclosure

Outreach events held in 2018 attended by the Chair or members of the Committee and/or its Group of Experts

Date	*Description*	*Organizer(s) sponsor(s)*	*Location*
Visits to States, at their invitation			
22–23 January	National round table on the implementation of the voluntary national implementation action plan	Turkmenistan, OSCE and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific	Ashgabat
20–22 August	Workshop on strategic trade control enforcement under the framework of resolution 1540 (2004)	Zambia, the Committee, the Office for Disarmament Affairs and WCO	Lusaka
9–10 October	National round table on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004)	Bahrain and the Committee	Manama
17–19 October	Workshop to support Mali in drafting its initial national report	Mali, the Committee and the Office for Disarmament Affairs	Bamako
15–16 November	National round table on the implementation of the voluntary national implementation action plan	Peru and the Committee	Lima
6–7 December	National round table on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004)	Equatorial Guinea, the Committee and the Office for Disarmament Affairs	Malabo
Joint visits to States			
11–13 July	Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate visit to Armenia	Armenia and the Counter-Terrorism Committee	Yerevan
16–18 July	Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate visit to Georgia	Georgia and the Counter-Terrorism Committee	Tbilisi
10–12 October	Implementation of financial measures required by Security Council resolutions 1267 (1999), 1373 (2001) and 1540 (2004)	Zimbabwe	Harare

Date	*Description*	*Organizer(s) sponsor(s)*	*Location*
Other country-specific activities			
26 February	National round table on identifying the legal and technical assistance necessary to facilitate the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004)	Suriname and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	Paramaribo
28 February	National round table on identifying the legal and technical assistance necessary to facilitate the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004)	Guyana and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	Georgetown
2–3 July	National round table on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004)	Kyrgyzstan and OSCE	Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan
Other regional activities			
7–8 March	Regional seminar on effective practices to enhance strategic trade and border controls (Latin American and Caribbean States)	United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean	Santo Domingo
10–17 April	Wiesbaden process conference for Governments and industry	Germany, India, the Committee and the Office for Disarmament Affairs	New Delhi
28–30 June	Peer review meeting (Central Asia and Belarus)	OSCE	Issyk-Kul
14–17 August	Training course for points of contact on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) (francophone African countries)	African Union and the Committee	Addis Ababa
4–7 September	Training course for points of contact on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) (States members of OSCE)	Russian Federation, OSCE and the Committee	Rostov-on-Don, Russian Federation
13–14 September	Wiesbaden process regional conference	Germany and Republic of Korea	Seoul
7–8 November	Regional conference on the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004)	Bolivia, the Committee and the Office for Disarmament Affairs	La Paz

Date	*Description*	*Organizer(s) sponsor(s)*	*Location*
13–14 December	Model law drafting session for implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) (African States)	African Union	Vienna
Other outreach activities			
9–11 January	Planning seminar relating to strategic trade control enforcement with regard to weapons of mass destruction	WCO	Brussels
6–7 February	Regional conference on the prevention of terrorism and of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their financing	OAS	Panama City
27 February–1 March	Twenty-fifth Asian export control seminar	Japan and the Centre for Information on Security Trade Control	Tokyo
20–21 March	Export control workshop (members and associate members of the Southern Common Market)	OAS	Montevideo
20–21 March	Global workshop on the universalization of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism and the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and the 2005 Amendment thereto	UNODC	Vienna
9–10 April	Workshop on enhancing the interoperability of agencies and coordinated communication in the event of chemical or biological emergencies	Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force	The Hague
24–25 April	Conference on legal and regulatory requirements for strategic trade controls (Central Asian States)	OSCE	Vienna
24–26 April	Subregional stakeholders forum for States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on	OPCW	Bangkok

Date	*Description*	*Organizer(s) sponsor(s)*	*Location*
	Their Destruction on advancing the implementation of the Convention and regional cooperation in South-East Asia		
9–10 May	Present and future of strategic export controls	Pakistan	Islamabad
7–8 June	Conference on countering chemical terrorism	OPCW	The Hague
18–21 June	Sixth international meeting of the national focal points of the European Union Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence	European Union	Brussels
19–21 June	Regional meeting of national authorities in Africa	OPCW	Marrakech, Morocco
10–13 July	Implementation of international legal instruments on transport-related maritime counter-terrorism	UNODC	Dhaka
11–12 July	Regional workshop on science and technology for the Middle East and North Africa	Jordan and the Implementation Support Unit for the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction	Amman
7–11 August	Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention, meetings of experts	States parties to the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention and the Implementation Support Unit	Geneva
28–31 August	Implementation of international legal instruments on transport-related maritime counter-terrorism	UNODC	Colombo

Date	*Description*	*Organizer(s)/sponsor(s)*	*Location*
17–18 September	Regional parliamentary workshop to promote the universality and implementation of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention and the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) (African States)	Parliamentarians for Global Action	Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania
26–28 September	Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention and implementation of Security Council resolutions	Global Emerging Pathogens Treatment Consortium	Freetown
26–28 September	Consultative meeting on guidance relating to the biosafety and biosecurity regulatory framework	World Health Organization	Geneva
4–5 October	Second partner-to-partner dialogue on export control governance	European Union	Brussels
12 October	Side event in the margins of the seventy-third session of the General Assembly on tools and challenges in addressing the proliferation of ballistic missiles	Sweden, the European Union and the Foundation for Strategic Research	New York
14–17 October	Forum on nuclear export control practices	United Arab Emirates	Dubai, United Arab Emirates
16–18 October	Workshop on the role of implementing legislation on the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction in addressing threats arising from non-State actors	Nigeria and OPCW	Abuja
17 October	139th Assembly of IPU	IPU	Geneva
23–24 October	Regional workshop for States parties of Central Asia to the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention	Kazakhstan, Germany and the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit	Almaty

Date	*Description*	*Organizer(s) sponsor(s)*	*Location*
30 October	Challenges for the governance of synthetic biology and implications for the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004)	Bolivia, Sweden and the Office for Disarmament Affairs	New York
21–22 November	Regional workshop for States parties of Asia to the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention of on the implications of the rapid developments in science and technology	Philippines and the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit	Manila
3–7 December	International conference on the security of radioactive material	IAEA	Vienna
4–7 December	Meeting of States Parties to the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention	States parties to the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention and the Implementation Support Unit	Geneva
11–12 December	Workshop on the universalization of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention for States members of the African Union	Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention Implementation Support Unit and the African Union	Addis Ababa
11–13 December	European Union Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence regional round-table meeting for South-East Asia	Lao People's Democratic Republic and the European Union	Vientiane

Abbreviations: IAEA, International Atomic Energy Agency; IPU, Inter-Parliamentary Union, OAS, Organization of American States; OPCW, Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons; OSCE, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe; UNODC, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime; UNREC, United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa; WCO: World Customs Organization.